

Advanced Academics Professional Development

Campus/District Offerings Serving Region 10 Schools 2010 - 2011

Books, Bags, and Brainbusters: A Make and Take Workshop to Increase Student Engagement (K-5) *NEW*

Participants will go beyond "hands-on" activities and engage in "minds on" activities that can be easily and quickly implemented into elementary classrooms in all four core areas. This workshop will inspire creativity and increase enthusiasm for the education of our gifted students. This training qualifies as a six hour GT update.

Cornell Note Taking: An Old Strategy Made New! *NEW*

One of Marzano's High Yield Strategies is summarizing and note taking. In this session you learn the basic concepts of the Cornell Note Taking Systems. Time will be spent in discussing the implementation of Cornell Notes and strategies for making this old technique new and effective in the classroom. Anyone can copy words, but the power of Cornell Note taking comes from the critical thinking embedded throughout the process. This training qualifies as a six hour GT update.

Differentiation in the Gifted Classroom

Some of the basic GT classroom management and instructional strategies such as readiness grouping, curriculum compacting, differentiated assessments and student products, as well as terms: acceleration, pacing, thinking skills, Socratic circles, tiered lessons, etc. will be demonstrated with curricula samples to assist teachers in their implementation of the GT differentiated classroom. To further provide new and/or different resources for teachers, the following new or unfamiliar models such as curriculum adjustments, Q-TASKS, Richard Paul's Wheel of Reasoning, Art Costa's Habits of the Mind, Project Based Learning, and the Thought Filled Curriculum will be presented. This professional development session qualifies as a six hour GT update.

Socratic Questioning for Gifted Students *NEW*

The Socratic method of teaching is based on Socrates' theory that it is more important to enable students to think for themselves than to merely fill their heads with "right" answers. Therefore, he regularly engaged his pupils in dialogues by responding to their questions with questions, instead of answers. This process encourages divergent thinking rather than convergent. In this workshop, participants are given opportunities to "examine" a common piece of text and then pose open-ended questions. Open-ended questions allow students to think critically, analyze multiple meanings in text, and express ideas with clarity and confidence. This format is based on dialogue and not discussion or debate. Dialogue is exploratory and once teachers and students learn to dialogue, they find that the ability to ask meaningful questions that stimulate thoughtful interchanges of ideas is more important than "the answer." Participants in a Socratic Seminar respond to one another with respect by carefully listening instead of interrupting. Students are encouraged to "paraphrase" essential elements of another's ideas before responding, either in support of or in disagreement. Members of the dialogue look each other in the "eyes" and use each other names. This simple act of socialization reinforces appropriate behaviors and promotes team building. This event is free to members of the Advanced Academics Cooperative. This training qualifies as a six hour GT update.

Strategies for the PreAP and AP Classroom

If our students are going to be able to think, compete, and problem-solve, then we must move toward a higher level of thinking and learning for them. That is why PreAP and AP makes logical sense for our GT students. This workshop guides teachers how to provide an explanation and demonstration of your strategy

as well as including the audience when possible, explain how strategies show depth and complexity, and explain how strategies connect to the various content areas. This professional development session qualifies as a six hour GT update.

The Digital Natives are Restless: Challenging Gifted Techies in Our Classrooms

This workshop familiarizes teachers with Web 2.0 tools, social networking, and the world of technology that is native to our students. This professional development session qualifies as a six hour GT update and is offered in an elementary version and a secondary version.